



Draft Minutes of the Reliability Advisory Council (RAC) Meeting

WebEx

June 9, 2021 8:32 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Central

Notice for this meeting was electronically posted to the MRO website [here](#) on May 9, 2021. A final agenda, including advanced reading materials, was also posted on June 2, 2021.

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum, Standards of Conduct and Antitrust Guidelines

The RAC Chair Dick Pursley called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Meeting Secretary Dana Klem, Reliability Analysis Administrator advised the chair that a quorum of the RAC was present. A complete list of attendees is included as [Exhibit A](#).

Member Stephens asked the Chair to change his presentation time due to a conflict. Chair Pursley asked for the RSTC update to start after the BOD Update.

Item 6a will be stricken as RAC Member Manjure is not in attendance. Chair Pursley mentioned the importance of the RTO reports and noted written reports should be submitted if an RTO member is unable to attend.

Pursuant to Policy and Procedure 4, Bryan Clark, MRO Director of Reliability Analysis and MRO Staff Liaison highlighted MRO's Standards of Conduct, Conflict of Interest, and Antitrust Guidelines.

RAC MEM

2. Chair's Remarks

Chair Pursley commented on remaining vigilant during the heatwave and the importance of participation in outreach regarding the challenges and changes in industry right now. Pursley provided highlights of the RAC's work since the beginning of the year, extended gratitude, and called for volunteers from meeting participants or associates to submit newsletter articles. The Reliability Conference speakers were mentioned, noting the keynote speaker has yet to be confirmed. Potential webinar topics were added to the work plan and volunteers will be requested. A symposium hosted by Grid North Partners will be held June 16, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Information regarding the symposium can be found here: [Finding True North conference - Grid North Partners](#)

3. Consent Agenda

The RAC reviewed the minutes from the March 24, 2021 meeting.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the RAC unanimously approved the minutes from the March 24, 2021 RAC meeting, as drafted.

4. MRO Board of Directors, OGOC and General Update

Bryan Clark provided an overview of the BOD and OGOC highlighting the agenda for the upcoming board meeting.



The next Agenda item was moved up to accommodate a scheduling conflict.

11. RTSC Update

RAC Member and RSTC Member John Stephens provided an update on the group noting several reliability guideline documents were approved, one will be posted for feedback, and another approval prompted dissolution of the task force. The RSTC is not receiving any updates on the cold weather event at the open meetings and will not be briefed until after the report is released. FERC and NERC are leading the effort on the cold weather report and are reaching out to the REs for more information to add to the report.

The RSTC Agenda for today's meeting was highlighted.

The RSTC distributes the agenda packet about one week prior to the meetings and they request comments usually 3 – 4 days before the meeting in order to have discussions prior to the meeting. Time for discussion and debate is missing from the newly formed RSTC.

5. Update 2021 Work Plan

- a. Review Action Items. Chair Pursley noted the highlighted items on the work plan that need volunteers. He provided an overview of newsletter expectations and discussion ensued on newsletter article topics and volunteers. Gayle provided an update on the NSRF weekly Wednesday meetings. The RAC would like to be aware if operations or planning projects are discussed at the NSRF meetings and when the comment periods are for those projects.

The RAC recessed for break at 10:23 and reconvened at 10:40.

NERC is working on COVID lessons learned and that outreach is forthcoming.

- a. Reliability Risk Matrix Updates. Bryan Clark provided an update noting the tool was used for the MRO RRA. Using this tool ERO wide is being discussed. Discussion ensued.
- b. Cold Weather Workshop Planning. Discussion was held on this topic under the work plan discussion.

6. Reliability Coordinator Updates

- a. MISO – Durgesh Manjure was not in attendance at the meeting.
- b. SPC – Binod Shrestha provided an overview of the SaskPower reliability assessment for the summer months. Highlights regarding generation and transmission projects, as well as a summary of the expectations in the summer months was mentioned. He noted they would meet the reserve requirement with a margin of 11%. A summary of projected load was also provided.
- c. SPP – CJ Brown provided an overview of SPP's footprint, noting lack of water on the west coast will affect California. Wildfire concerns and associated risks will also have a big impact. He noted there is enough generation in the east and projecting enough generation pending any major disturbance. Discussion.

The next Agenda item was moved up to accommodate a scheduling conflict.

8. MRO Generator Cold Weather Preparedness Overview

Russ Mountjoy provided an overview on the Generator Cold Weather Preparedness Overview program implemented at MRO. A three pronged approach towards winter preparation was identified:

- Development or enhancement of one or more NERC Reliability Standards;
- Enhanced outreach to GOs and GOPs; and
- Market rules where appropriate.

Joint site visits with other Regions will occur along with entity surveys. Any repeat issues from GADs should be identified by July, 2021. The GADs survey data could be included in a site visit or workshop from the cold weather group. Perhaps this effort should be aligned with the RAC workshop to eliminate duplication. Discussion ensued.

7. February 2021 Cold Weather Event

RAC Member CJ Brown provided an overview of the winter event of 2021 highlighting:

- Early preparation;
- Public appeals and an EA to reduce demand; and
- Service interruptions required and collaboration reduced impact.

Had SPP not learned from the 2018 event, this event could have been much worse. Generation in SPP was also highlighted including nameplate capacity, accredited capacity and 2020 energy production. Drivers of Temporary Service interruptions were highlighted; generation unavailability, rapid reduction of energy imports and record winter energy consumption. Lessons learned will be documented from this event. Discussion ensued.

The RAC recessed for lunch at 12:30 and reconvened at 1:10.

9. RAC Charter Review

The RAC Charter was presented to the council with changes to clarify membership of RCs and PCs. Discussion ensued. The sentence was changed to read "If an entity is registered as both an RC and a PC, one member may represent both the RC and the PC." Discussion ensued.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the RAC unanimously approved the RAC Charter as modified.

10. 2021 Reliability Conference

RAC Member and Conference Planning Member Jason Weirs, provided an overview of the conference planning noting the keynote speaker has yet to be confirmed. Gratitude was extended to Rowley for agreeing to emcee the conference. The agenda was reviewed and discussion ensued.

11. RSTC Meeting Update

This Agenda item was moved up to accommodate a scheduling conflict between Agenda items 4 and 5.



12. MRO Internal Assessment

Salva Andiappan provide an overview of the MRO Internal Summer Assessment highlighting additional information added this year. He provided charts on 50/50 forecast demand information, extreme summer resource and peak demand scenario and a comparison between 50/50 and 90/10 peak demand. Discussion ensued.

13. MRO Representatives on NERC Subgroups – Written Reports

- a. NERC Electric Gas Working Group (EGWG) - Jaimin Patel
- b. NERC Inverter Based Resource Performance Working Group (IRPWG) - David Brauch noted the group is putting the final touches on whitepapers and guides to submit to the RSTC.
- c. NERC System Planning Impacts from DER Working Group (SPIDERWG) - Sunny Raheem highlighted the recent work the group has undertaken reliability guidelines, DER survey whitepaper attached to the report was highlighted. The challenges currently facing the group around NERC requirements for FERC order 2222 DER aggregator and trying to come up with next steps for standards review. The group is also addressing the reliability guideline for 2222 as compared to FERC guidelines. Discussion ensued.
- d. NERC Real Time Operating Subcommittee (RTOS) - Steve Sanders. Bryan Clark provided an overview of the makeup of this group. Chair Pursley asked if Steve could provide an oral report at the next meeting.
- e. NERC System Protection and Control Working Group (SPCWG) - Mark Gutzmann

The reports were reviewed by the council. Chair Pursley reiterated the importance of these reports and the outreach from these groups which are a good resource. Bryan Clark requested that the group notify MRO of any other groups that MRO should be following.

14. Protective Relay Subgroup (PRS)

- a. Charter review and approval to recommend to the OGOC for approval

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the RAC unanimously approved the PRS Charter as modified.

- b. PRS Written Report. The report was reviewed by the council. It was noted that the outcome of the whitepaper on overcurrent misoperations could be an opportunity for a webinar.

15. Review 2021 Meetings and Potential 2022 Meeting Dates

- a. 2021 Meeting Schedule was presented.
- b. 2022 Meeting and Conference Schedule and Board meetings were presented. A suggestion was made to start thinking about the 2022 Conference planning now as the date is less than 12 months away.

16. Review of Action Items

Dana Klem provided an overview of the action items taken from the meeting.

17. RAC Member Roundtable

RAC Member Weiers thanked CJ for presenting on the February 2021 arctic event. Pursley mentioned the hot weather and thanked all involved for being diligent.



18. Other Business and Adjourn

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Prepared by: Dana Klem, MRO Reliability Analysis Administrator.

Reviewed and Submitted by: Bryan Clark, MRO Director of Reliability Analysis



Exhibit A – Meeting Attendees

Reliability Advisory Council Members Present	
Name	Organization
Dick Pursley, Chair	Great River Energy
Jason Weiers, Vice Chair	Otter Tail Power Company
Allen Klassen	Evergy, Inc.
Binod Shrestha	Saskatchewan Power Company
CJ Brown	Southwest Power Pool, Inc.
Dallas Rowley	Oklahoma Gas and Electric
Dean Schiro	Xcel Energy
Derek Brown	Evergy, Inc.
Durgesh Manjure	MISO
Dwayne Stradford	American Electric Power
Gayle Nansel	Western Area Power Administration
John Stephens	City Utilities of Springfield Missouri
Nandaka Jayasekara	Manitoba Hydro
Nicholas Giffin	American Transmission Company
Ron Gunderson	Nebraska Public Power District
Members Not Present	
Durgesh Manjure	MISO
MRO Staff Present	
Name	Title
Bryan Clark	Director of Reliability Analysis
Dana Klem	Reliability Analysis Administrator
Estee Kolles	Security Administrator



Jake Bernhagen	Senior Systems Protection Engineer
John Seidel	Principal Technical Advisor
Julie Peterson	Assistant Corporate Secretary and Senior Legal Counsel
Max Desruisseaux	Senior Power Systems Engineer
Salva Andiappan	Principal Reliability Assessment Engineer
Russ Mountjoy	Principal Reliability Specialist
Steen Fjalstad	Director of Security
Uttam Adhikari	Senior Risk Assessment & Mitigation Engineer
Guests	
Name	Organization
Mary Agnes Nimis	FERC
Jeff Wells	Grand River Dam Authority
Theresa Reichard	Grand River Dam Authority
David Brauch	MISO
Larry Brusseau	Cornbelt Power Cooperative
Sunny Raheem	Southwest Power Pool